GOLD KEY

TWILIGHT ZONE

THE TWILIGHT ZONE

ROD SERLING

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He could read the future, but he couldn't change it—
until the day he saw DEATH in the headlines!

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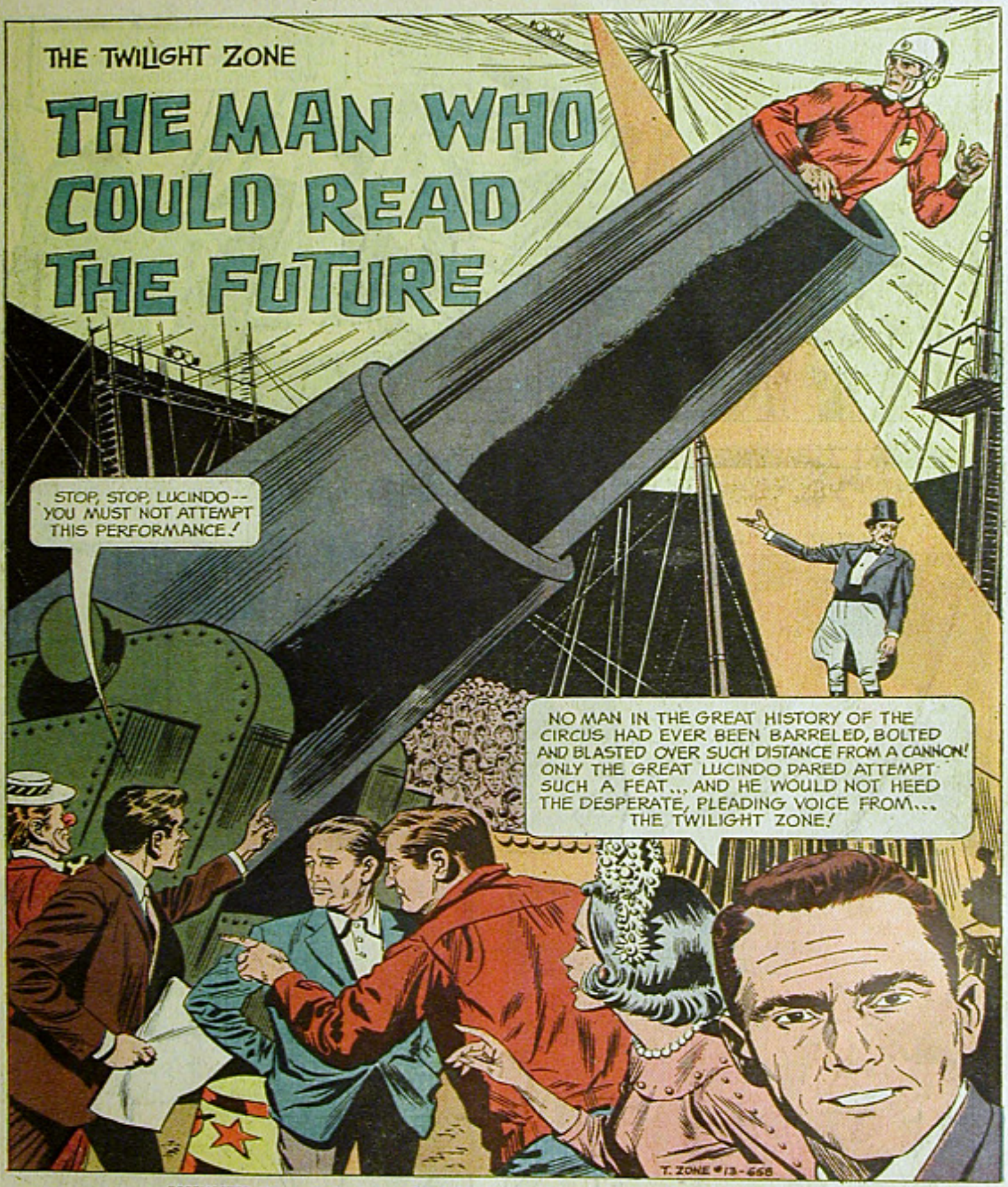
THE TWILIGHT ZONE
THE MAN WHO COULD READ THE FUTURE
STOP, STOP, LUCINDO-- YOU MUST NOT ATTEMPT THIS PERFORMANCE!
NO MAN IN THE GREAT HISTORY OF THE CIRCUS HAD EVER BEEN BARRELED, BOLTED AND BLASTED OVER SUCH DISTANCE FROM A CANNON! ONLY THE GREAT LUCINDO DARED ATTEMPT SUCH A FEAT... AND HE WOULD NOT HEED THE DESPERATE, PLEADING VOICE FROM... THE TWILIGHT ZONE!
T. ZONE #13-65B

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CHANGE OF ADDRESS should reach us four weeks in advance of the next issue date. Give both your old and new address enclosing if possible your old address label.

IT HAD HAPPENED BEFORE UNDER THE BIG TOP... THOSE WHO DO NOT KNOW DANGER OFTEN PANIC WHEN IT CONFRONTS THEM...
OUT...OUT, FELLA!
PLEASE... LISTEN TO ME... I'M NOT A-A CRACKPOT! I KNOW WHAT I'M TALKING ABOUT.
IN THE NAME OF HEAVEN, STOP HIM! HE CAN NOT SURVIVE THE 100-YARD CANNON SHOT! THE CANNON SIGHTS HAVE BEEN MISCALCULATED... HE'LL MISS... MISS!
YOU DEVILISH LITTLE DOG!—HE SHOULD BREAK EVERY LIMB IN YOUR BODY FOR TRYING TO JINX THE GREAT LUCINDO! OFF WITH YOU!
THE DRUMS ROLL... THE GREAT LUCINDO SLIPS INSIDE HIS CANNON... BUT HIS EYES GAZE TOWARD THE EXIT...
HE DID NOT LOOK LIKE THE OTHERS WHO SHRIEK WHEN I PERFORM... THE TIMID ONES WHO FEAR ANYTHING THAT CHALLENGES LIFE...
FOOL, LUCINDO--IT IS YOU WHO IS GETTING WEAK IN YOUR OLD AGE... FEARING EACH CRY OF THE CROWD...

IN THE STILLNESS OF THE GREAT ARENA THE CANNON THUNDERS ...THE HUMAN SHELL SPURTS FORTH...
BUT IN MID-AIR, THE MASTER PERFORMER FEELS THE COOL BREATH OF DEATH ON HIS CHEEKS...
T-THE ANGLE IS WRONG... T-THE POWER CHARGE WAS TOO POWERFUL...
BY A FULL FOOT THE PLUMMETING BODY OF THE GREAT PERFORMER MISSES THE TARGET...
EEEEEEEEKK!
THE OH'S AND AH'S OF THE CROWD RISE AND DIE... AND OUTSIDE, A MAN CRINGES IN THE SAWDUST...
I-IT HAPPENED! T-THEY WOULDN'T LISTEN...THEY WOULDN'T BELIEVE ME...
OH-H-H!
B-BUT HOW COULD THEY KNOW— I-I HAD TOMORROW'S NEWSPAPER...TODAY!
GREAT LUCINDO DIES IN FAULTY CANNON BLAST

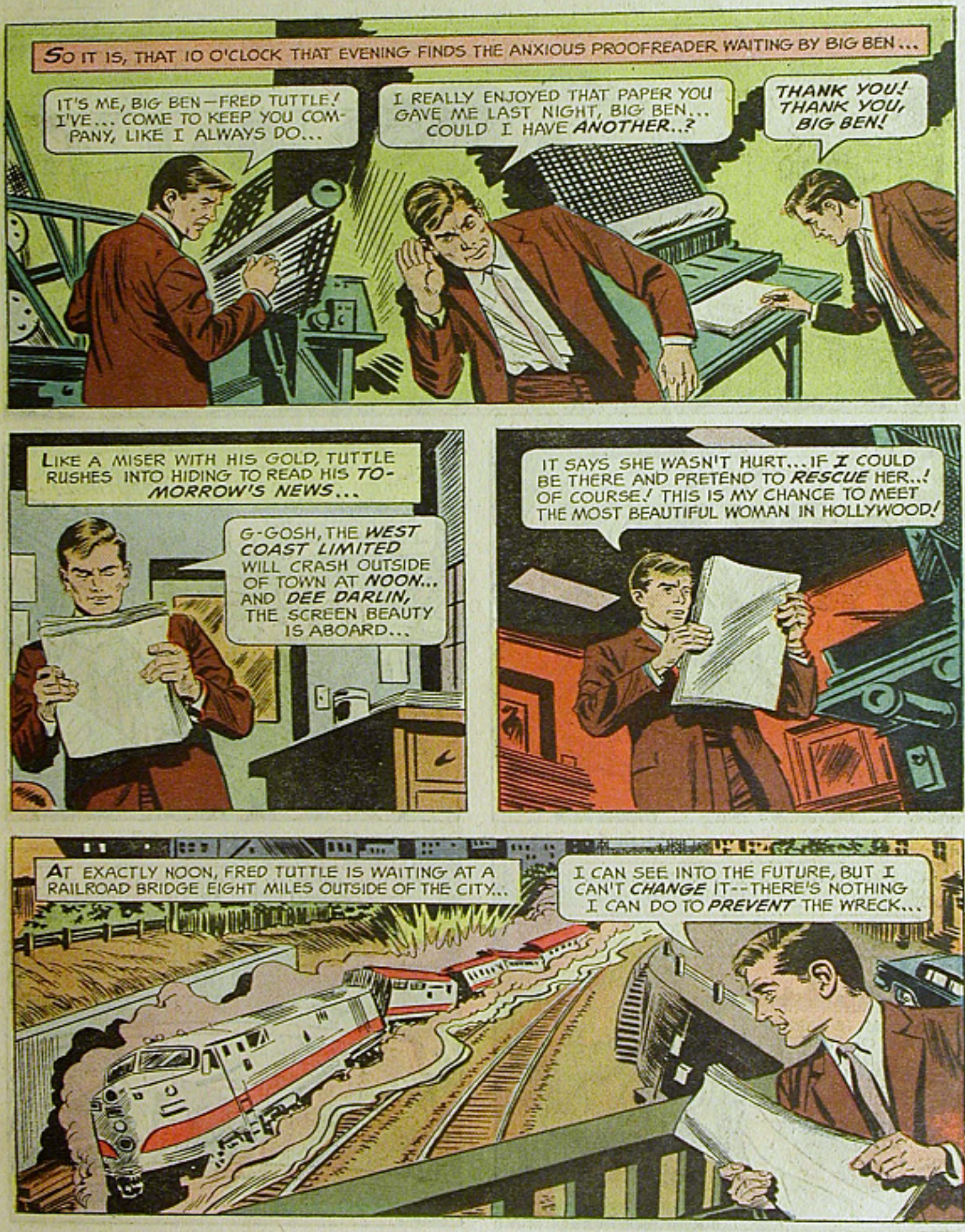
THE MAN SLIPS INTO THE SHADOWS... HIS HEART POUNDING WITH THE TERRIBLE SECRET LOCKED WITHIN IT...
THERE CAN BE NO DOUBT OF IT...EVERY WORD IN THE PAPER IS TRUE... AND THERE'S NOTHING I CAN DO TO CHANGE THINGS!
HOSPITAL
OVER AND OVER HIS MIND REPLAYS THE STEPS THAT CARRIED HIM INTO THE TWILIGHT ZONE...
IT WAS THIS SAME TIME LAST NIGHT... JUST TWENTY-FOUR HOURS AGO...IT'S LIKE A DREAM...
WHEN I ENTERED THE PRESS ROOM FOR MY USUAL 10 O'CLOCK BREAK I WAS JUST ANOTHER NEWSPAPER WORKER—FRED TUTTLE, PROOFREADER...
THIS IS ALWAYS THE BEST TIME OF MY DAY... WHEN THE PAPER'S PUT TO BED AND THE PRESSES ARE SLEEPING...
HEH, HEH, THAT TUTTLE SURE LOVES THE PRESSES! MOST EVERY NIGHT I HEAR HIM TALKING TO THEM... JUST LIKE THEY WERE HUMAN!
YUP...GUESS HE SHOULDA BEEN A PRESSMAN, STEAD OF A PROOFREADER!
"WAS IT MY IMAGINATION, OR DID BIG BEN STIR A LITTLE WHEN I PATTED HIM THAT MOMENT?..."
I SEE YOU DID YOUR USUAL GOOD JOB, BIG BEN--HALF THE CITY WILL READ WHAT YOU PRINTED TODAY!

"IT WAS THEN... JUST AS I LIFTED MY COFFEE UP, THAT IT HAPPENED..."
THUGS... BREAKING IN WITH SLEDGE HAMMERS!
"LET'S SEE, AT FIRST I WAS FRIGHTENED... THEN, WHEN THEY STARTED TO HIT BIG BEN, EVERYTHING BECAME BLURRED..."
DON'T YOU TOUCH BIG BEN!
????
"FROM WHAT THEY TELL ME, I MUST HAVE BATTLED LIKE A WILD ANIMAL..."
GET OUT OF HERE-- GO BACK WHERE YOU CAME FROM! YOU AREN'T HURTING MY PRESSES!
T-THE GUY'S C-CRAZY..!
"IT'S ALL SO CLOUDY... I REMEMBER SEIZING ONE OF THE SLEDGE HAMMERS..."
OOF!
DON'T WORRY, BIG BEN--NOBODY'S GOING TO BREAK YOU UP...!
YIPE!
"THEN IT WAS OVER... AND SUDDENLY, BIG BEN STARTED TO MOVE..."
T-THEY'RE ALL UNCONSCIOUS... GOSH, I MUST HAVE KNOCKED THEM OUT...!
H-HAH? BIG BEN'S... RUNNING!

"IT WAS JUST LIKE SOME DREAM FANTASY WHEN BIG BEN WENT INTO ACTION PRINTING ME THAT SPECIAL 'EXTRA'..."
W-WHY BIG BEN'S PRINTED UP JUST ONE PAPER... I-IT MUST BE FOR ME...!
"I DIDN'T HAVE A CHANCE TO READ IT THEN-- NOT IN ALL THE CONFUSION THAT FOLLOWED..."
GREAT GOSH! HOOLIGAN'S FROM OUR RIVAL PAPER... TUTTLE'S KNOCKED THEM ALL COLD!
TUTTLE — ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
"YES, IT WASN'T UNTIL I GOT HOME IN BED THAT I READ BIG BEN'S GIFT..."
WHA...? T-THIS ISN'T JUST ANOTHER COPY OF TODAY'S FOUR-STAR FINAL!!
I-IT'S DATED THE 10TH, TOMORROW-- IT'S TOMORROW'S EVENING EDITION!
GREAT LUCINDO DIES IN FAULTY CANNON BLAST
"SURE, AT FIRST I THOUGHT I HAD LOST MY SENSES... THEN I REASONED THAT PERHAPS THE TYPESET IN BIG BEN HAD BECOME JUMBLED... BUT THAT WAS BEFORE I SAW IT..."
T-THIS BOX... IT CARRIES THE STORY OF MY BATTLE IN THE PRESS ROOM! T-THIS IS TOMORROW'S PAPER!
STAR BLADE PROOFREADER DOWNS HOOLIGANS IN PRESS ROOM

N-NOW THE GREAT LUCINDO'S DEATH HAS DOUBLE PROVED IT--BIG BEN GAVE ME TODAY'S NEWS LAST NIGHT! W-WHY, THAT MEANS I CAN TELL...
...WHAT STOCKS ARE GOING UP ON THE EXCHANGE...WHAT HORSES ARE GOING TO WIN TODAY'S RACES!
LET'S SEE THE 5TH RACE... LAZY SAM— $52.20, $30.00, $14.80...
WHEN OUR EDITION GOES TO PRESS ONLY 5 RACE RESULTS ARE IN...LAZY SAM WON THE 5TH... I-I'VE JUST TIME TO REACH THE TRACK BEFORE IT GOES OFF!
AND SO, AS IS QUITE NATURAL, FRED TUTTLE TURNS HIS THOUGHT TO PERSONAL GAIN! AFTER ALL, WOULDN'T YOU..?
TAXI! TAXI!
TAXI
TWENTY MINUTES LATER, HE RACES INTO THE TRACK LIKE A MAN POSSESSED...
WAIT, WAIT! DON'T CLOSE ME OUT— I WANT $50 TO WIN ON LAZY SAM!
WINDOW

BUT MINUTES LATER, AS THE HORSES CROSS THE FINISH LINE, HIS HOPES ARE DASHED ASUNDER... SOMETHING APPEARS TO HAVE GONE WRONG...
THE WINNER HAPPY LARK, SECOND LAZY SAM, THIRD BEANIE...
I-I LOST... BIG BEN'S PAPER OF TOMORROW ISN'T TRUE!
BUT MINUTES LATER...
THERE HAS BEEN AN OBJECTION IN THE 5TH RACE—HAPPY LARK HAS BEEN DISQUALIFIED AND LAZY SAM IS THE WINNER!
YIPPEE!
SUDDENLY, A STRANGE TRANSFORMATION COMES OVER THE QUIET TUTTLE... GREED HAS PLUCKED AT HIS SOUL...
IT'S TRUE! MY PAPER SEES THE FUTURE! I CAN BECOME RICH!
BUT THEN, AS THE FIRST THRILL OF WINNING SUBSIDES, A SHOCKING REALIZATION COMES TO FRED TUTTLE...
W-WAIT A MOMENT...THIS IS THE END OF THE DAY... ALL THE NEWS AND EVENTS HAVE ALREADY TAKEN PLACE...I-I CAN'T TELL WHAT WILL HAPPEN NEXT..! UNLESS...
...UNLESS BIG BEN GIVES ME ANOTHER PAPER!


SO IT IS, THAT 10 O'CLOCK THAT EVENING FINDS THE ANXIOUS PROOFREADER WAITING BY BIG BEN...
IT'S ME, BIG BEN—FRED TUTTLE! I'VE... COME TO KEEP YOU COMPANY, LIKE I ALWAYS DO...
I REALLY ENJOYED THAT PAPER YOU GAVE ME LAST NIGHT, BIG BEN... COULD I HAVE ANOTHER..?
THANK YOU! THANK YOU, BIG BEN!
LIKE A MISER WITH HIS GOLD, TUTTLE RUSHES INTO HIDING TO READ HIS TOMORROW'S NEWS...
G-GOSH, THE WEST COAST LIMITED WILL CRASH OUTSIDE OF TOWN AT NOON... AND DEE DARLIN, THE SCREEN BEAUTY IS ABOARD...
IT SAYS SHE WASN'T HURT... IF I COULD BE THERE AND PRETEND TO RESCUE HER..! OF COURSE! THIS IS MY CHANCE TO MEET THE MOST BEAUTIFUL WOMAN IN HOLLYWOOD!
AT EXACTLY NOON, FRED TUTTLE IS WAITING AT A RAILROAD BRIDGE EIGHT MILES OUTSIDE OF THE CITY...
I CAN SEE INTO THE FUTURE, BUT I CAN'T CHANGE IT--THERE'S NOTHING I CAN DO TO PREVENT THE WRECK...

QUICKLY, TUTTLE RUNS ALONGSIDE THE TANGLED CARS...
THE PAPER SAID SHE WAS IN THE THE THIRD CAR..! MISS DARLIN! MISS DARLIN!

THEN...
H-HERE I AM! PLEASE... PLEASE HELP ME!

NOW... NOW, JUST REMAIN CALM, MISS DARLIN... YOU'RE ALL RIGHT... NO BONES BROKEN!
S-SHE'S BEAUTIFUL ...BEAUTIFUL!

CLEAR OF THE WRECK, TUTTLE PUTS THE NEXT STEP OF HIS PLANS INTO ACTION...
W-WHERE ARE YOU TAKING ME? SHOULDN'T WE WAIT FOR A-AN AMBULANCE?
MY CAR IS PARKED BACK ON THE ROAD, MISS DARLIN! I'LL HAVE YOU TO THE HOSPITAL IN NO TIME!

I'M NOT ACTUALLY HURT! DO YOU THINK I REALLY SHOULD GO TO A HOSPITAL?
ONE CAN NEVER TELL ABOUT INJURIES! I WANT TO MAKE SURE YOU HAVE A CHECK UP ...DEE! I... DON'T WANT ANYTHING TO HAPPEN TO YOU!

IN THE DAYS THAT FOLLOW, TUTTLE IS ALWAYS AT THE SCREEN BEAUTY'S SIDE... HIS AMAZING "POWERS" SOON WIN HER AFFECTIONS...
JUST AS YOU PREDICTED, FRED, I'VE BEEN RELEASED FROM THE HOSPITAL AFTER TWENTY-FOUR HOURS...
WHEN YOU HAD A PREMONITION OF RAIN I SHOULD HAVE KNOWN OUR DAY AT THE BEACH WOULD BE RUINED!
DARLING... SOMETIMES YOU FRIGHTEN ME--YOU ACTUALLY SEEMED TO KNOW THE THEATER SHOWING MY PICTURE WOULD BURN TODAY!
TUTTLE'S STAR SOARS HIGHER AND HIGHER ... IN THE WORLD OF HIGH FINANCE. HE IS THE NEW WIZARD OF WALL STREET...
THAT'S TUTTLE THERE ... HE'S UNCANNY— MADE A KILLING EVERY DAY THIS WEEK... SEEMS TO KNOW JUST WHAT THE MARKET WILL DO!
WITH HIS "NOSE FOR NEWS" HE MOVES FROM PROOFREADER TO STAR REPORTER...
LOOK AT THAT! WE JUST GOT THE FLASH AND TUTTLE IS HERE ALREADY!
FANTASTIC!
HE WAS HERE, THERE AND EVERYWHERE...
TEN SECONDS... FIVE SECONDS... NOW! RIGHT ON SCHEDULE—THE BANNER WILL READ: FREIGHTER AND LINER COLLIDE IN FOG.

OF COURSE, MANY WONDERED WHY A WEALTHY MAN LIKE FRED TUTTLE WOULD STILL WANT A REPORTER'S JOB...

WE'VE BEEN MARRIED A MONTH NOW AND BOTH OUR BANK ACCOUNTS ARE JUST BURSTING! *WHY* MUST YOU KEEP WORKING ON THE PAPER?

BUT FRED HAD HIS ANSWER...

I'VE GOT INK IN MY VEINS, DEE--NEWSPAPER LIFE IS PART OF ME! I...I WOULD FEEL *LOST* IF I QUIT COMPLETELY!

BUT WITHIN HIS MIND THE TRUE REASON RAN ROUND AND ROUND...

WHAT IF I *SHOULD* QUIT?—WOULD BIG BEN *STILL* GIVE ME TOMORROW'S PAPER IF I WENT TO THE PRESSROOM? I-I DON'T DARE RISK IT!

THEN CAME THE DAY DEE WAS MAKING A RUSH FLIGHT TO THE COAST FOR RETAKES ON HER LATEST PICTURE... AS TUTTLE RECEIVED HIS SPECIAL PAPER FROM BIG BEN...

NO... NO!

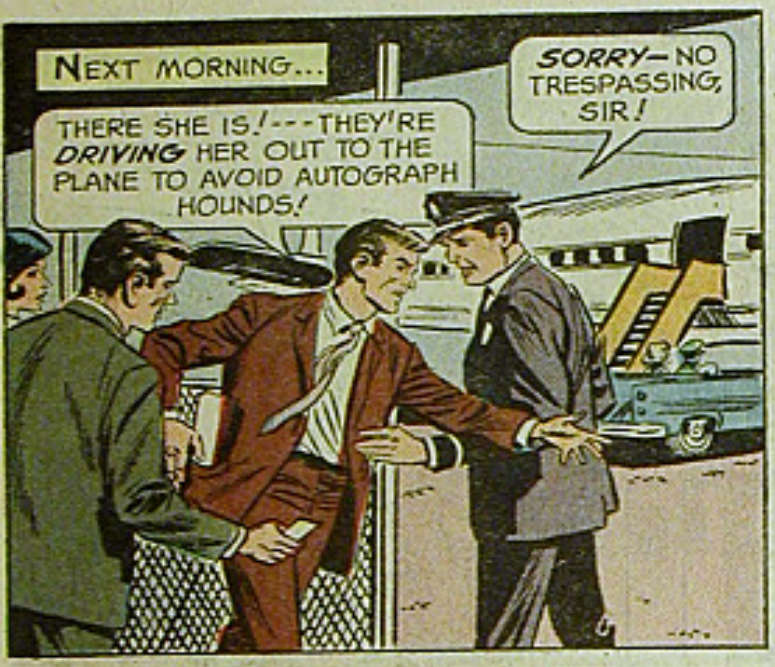
T-THAT'S *DEE'S* PLANE...I'VE GOT TO MAKE HER CANCEL OUT! B-BUT SHE'S OUT OF TOWN MAKING PERSONAL APPEARANCES... S-SHE WAS GOING DIRECTLY TO THE *AIRPORT* IN THE MORNING...

NOON FLIGHT TO L.A. CRASHES ALL LOST

A DOZEN PHONE CALLS LATER, FRED TUTTLE GRIMLY REALIZES HE IS POWERLESS...

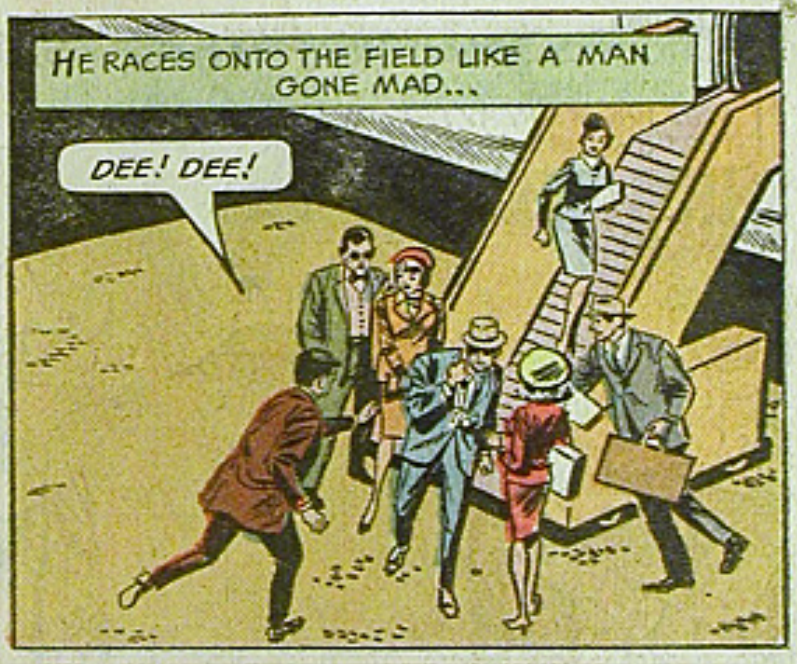
SORRY, MR. TUTTLE, YOUR WIFE IS EN-ROUTE BACK—WE CAN'T REACH HER!

I-I'LL JUST HAVE TO BE AT THE AIRPORT MYSELF... STOP HER *THERE* IN THE MORNING!


NEXT MORNING...
THERE SHE IS!---THEY'RE DRIVING HER OUT TO THE PLANE TO AVOID AUTOGRAPH HOUNDS!
SORRY—NO TRESPASSING, SIR!

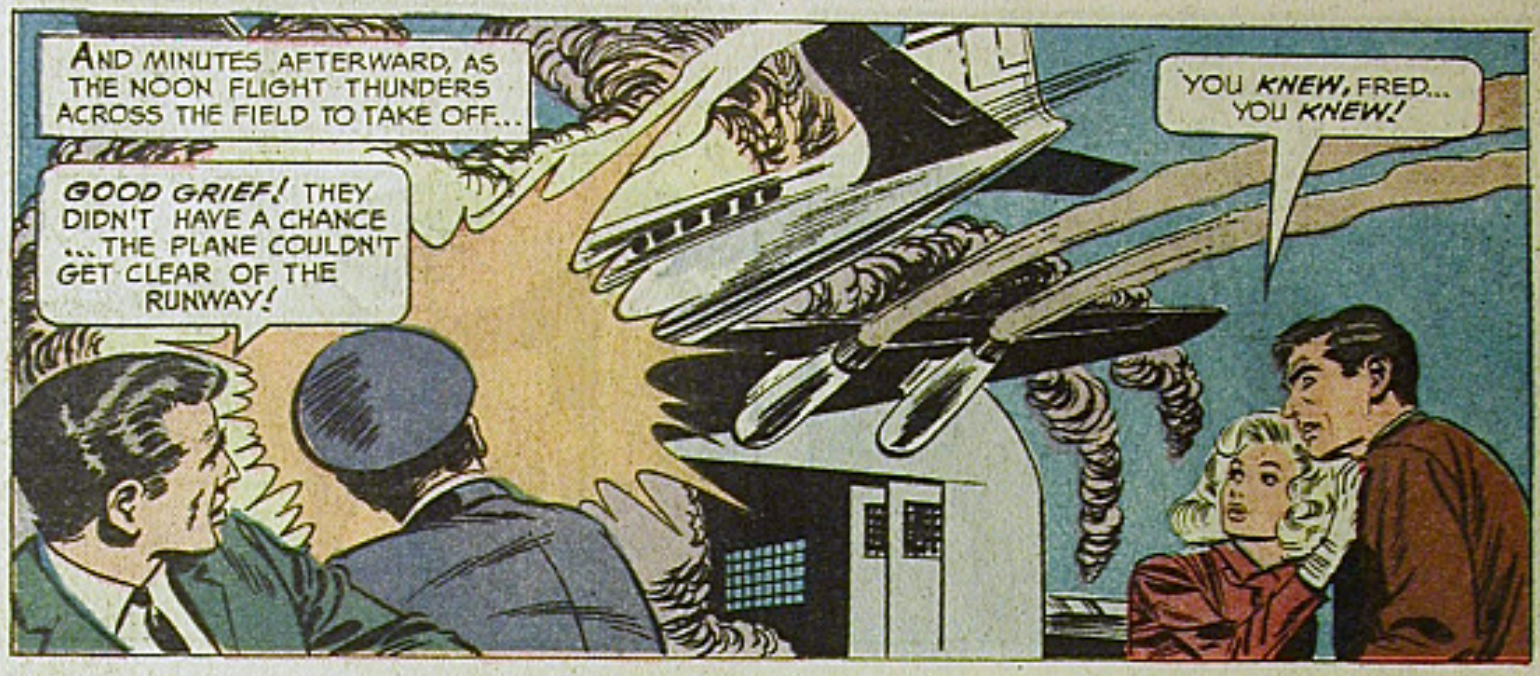
LET ME PASS, YOU FOOL--IT'S A MATTER OF LIFE AND DEATH!
ONLY PASSENGERS ARE ALLOWED THROUGH THE GATES! STEP BACK OR I'LL SUMMON AN OFFICER!

ABRUPTLY, BLIND PANIC SEIZES TUTTLE'S MIND...
CALL THE WHOLE POLICE FORCE, YOU JABBERING NITWIT!


HE RACES ONTO THE FIELD LIKE A MAN GONE MAD...
DEE! DEE!

MY WIFE'S NOT GOING ...SHE'S GOT TO GET OFF! LET ME THROUGH!

IN A FRENZY, HE DRAGS HER FROM THE CRAFT...
F-FRED...YOU'VE LOST YOUR MIND... LET ME GO!
I-I CAN'T DEE... YOU'LL BE DOOMED ...DOOMED!


AND MINUTES AFTERWARD, AS THE NOON FLIGHT THUNDERS ACROSS THE FIELD TO TAKE OFF...
GOOD GRIEF! THEY DIDN'T HAVE A CHANCE ...THE PLANE COULDN'T GET CLEAR OF THE RUNWAY!
YOU KNEW, FRED... YOU KNEW!

Y-YOU'RE NOT HUMAN... YOU KNOW EVERYTHING THAT'S GOING TO HAPPEN...
YOU'RE...YOU'RE UNHOLY...(SOB, SOB)
I-I CAN'T STAND IT ANY MORE... IT'S LIKE LIVING WITH A-A DEVIL!
DEE...DON'T LEAVE ME!

BUT THAT NIGHT DEE DARLIN DOES NOT RETURN HOME... AND AS TUTTLE WENDS HIS WAY TO THE NEWSPAPER OFFICE AT 10 O'CLOCK...
I HAVE EVERYTHING IN THE WORLD... AND NOTHING! WITHOUT DEE LIFE IS MEANINGLESS... PERHAPS ...PERHAPS TOMORROW'S PAPER WILL HAVE SOME NEWS OF HER PLANS NOW...

BIG BEN'S PAPER DOES INDEED CARRY IMPORTANT NEWS FOR TUTTLE THIS NIGHT... BUT IT IS NOT OF DEE DARLIN...
STAR-BLADE ACE REPORTER CRUSHED BY RUNAWAY TRUCK
FRED TUTTLE DIES IN FREAK ACCIDENT

TRANSFIXED WITH FEAR, FRED TUTTLE WALKS ALONG THE RIVER...
T-THE PAPER HAS NEVER BEEN WRONG... IT CAN'T BE WRONG...

N-NO POWER ON EARTH CAN CHANGE THE NEWS ...I'LL BE KILLED TOMORROW... HORRIBLY, AS THE PAPER SAID...

NOW TUTTLE CLIMBING UP ON RAIL ABOUT TO LEAP IN. HIS FACE IS CONTORTED, WILD WITH FEAR.
THERE'S ONLY ONE WAY TO BEAT BIG BEN'S PAPER AND CHANGE THE NEWS ...BY TAKING MY OWN LIFE NOW!

SILENTLY, UNSEEN FRED TUTTLE SLIPS TO HIS DEATH IN THE WATERS BELOW...

AND NEXT DAY IN THE OFFICES OF THE STAR-BLADE...
WHAT IN THUNDER IS GOING ON HERE?-- IT WASN'T OUR FRED TUTTLE WHO WAS CRUSHED BY THAT THAT TRUCK! IT WAS A BROOKLYN MAN WITH THE SAME NAME! CHANGE THIS HEAD!
HOLD UP, CHIEF!

OUR TUTTLE IS DEAD TOO! A FLASH JUST CAME IN-- HIS BODY WAS FOUND IN THE RIVER JUST TEN MINUTES AGO.
C-CAN YOU BEAT THAT... I WROTE UP A WRONG OBIT AND TUTTLE REALLY DIES THE SAME DAY! G-GOSH ...IT'S REAL... WEIRD!

THE SPECTRAL LIGHTS

Among the weirdest phenomena that puzzle scientists today are the "spectral lights" which have appeared in various spots around the world. Viewers of these strange manifestations describe them as yellow or sometimes pink balls of light which drift about in certain areas. It has been reported that they give off a sizzling or crackling sound.

One of these spectral lights was spotted in a Colorado cemetery in the spring of 1956. A frightened onlooker reported that he saw a blue-white flickering ball about the size of a basketball. Others who passed the cemetery reported there were two or perhaps three lights all dancing about each other. They saw the lights hover over the tombstones and then dart toward the ground.

Curious onlookers pursued the lights one night, but in vain. When the lights were approached they merely disappeared . . . and then reappeared at another spot across the cemetery.

Back in 1951, citizens of a rural county of Virginia spotted a glowing blob of ghostly light which seemed to hover over a highway. Older residents report that the glowing orb was known even in their parent's day. On occasion, the Virginia light is so bright that it gives the impression of a locomotive hurtling down the road. But when approached, it vanishes.

Another ghostly orb haunts the area near Hornet, Arkansas. It is reported that this ball of light was first seen by the local Indians long before the white man came. The Indian medicine-men called it a "spirit light."

Modern viewers report that the Hornet light is yellowish-orange in color. It usually appears during the summer and is often observed on the roads near the Missouri-Arkansas state line. Many adventuresome investigators have tried to photograph the Hornet light and succeeded. But the resulting globe of light on the photograph tells little.

The Hornet light varies its performance from time to time. Often it starts out as a glowing ball drifting over a road. Then suddenly it will change color, turning orange or white. In the next instant it will rocket down the road at fantastic speed . . . and then stop abruptly. It was noticed that the light was repelled by the approach of people or any other moving object.

Several attempts have been made to surround and trap the light. As in the case of the Colorado light phenomenon, the Hornet light was encircled by a group of determined people. But as soon as the investigators approached within twenty-five feet, the light blinked out. Seconds later it was seen again in a pasture near by.

Army scientists sent special crews to investigate the Hornet light. Using telescopes, geiger counters and other advanced electronic gear, they checked the entire area, but they found nothing to explain the puzzling darting globe of light that haunted the road near Hornet, Arkansas.

Spectral lights have been seen in many places throughout the country including Galvez, Louisiana and Alpine, Texas. There are many "explanations" for these strange manifestations. Some scientists say it is caused by marsh gas. Others blame radioactive mineral deposits. Still others say the cause is a reflection from an automobile headlight. But no one has ever really solved the baffling origin of spectral lights.

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ROCKY and BULLWINKLE
ARE CHEERIOS YOUR FAVORITE CEREAL BULLWINKLE?
RIGHT, ROCK.
General Mills
Cheerios.
CHEERIOS 'N' MILK GIVE US PEOPLE MUSCLE-MAKIN' PROTEIN...
...AND LOTS OF GO...GO...GO!
DO YOU MEAN THAT EVERYONE SHOULD GO WITH THE GOODNESS OF CHEERIOS?
?
MOST ASSUREDLY, ROCK!
BUT THEY SHOULD WATCH WHERE THEY'RE GOING!

THE MAN WITH MY FACE

BONNIE, DON'T LISTEN TO HIM! HE'S NOT ERIC REMAJOHN, THE MAN YOU LOVE--I AM!
OH-H!
TONIGHT
CITY OPERA
"NIGHT AFTER NIGHT I FOLLOWED THEM—HOPING, PRAYING MY FIANCÉE WOULD HEED MY WORDS AND BELIEVE! BUT IT WAS HOPELESS... THE MAN WHO STOLE MY FACE HAD DONE HIS DEVILISH JOB TOO WELL...
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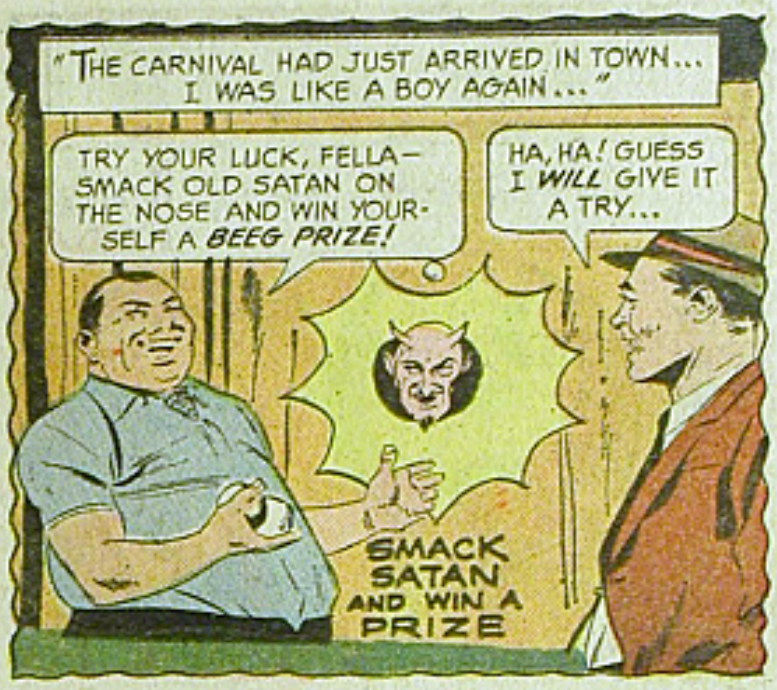
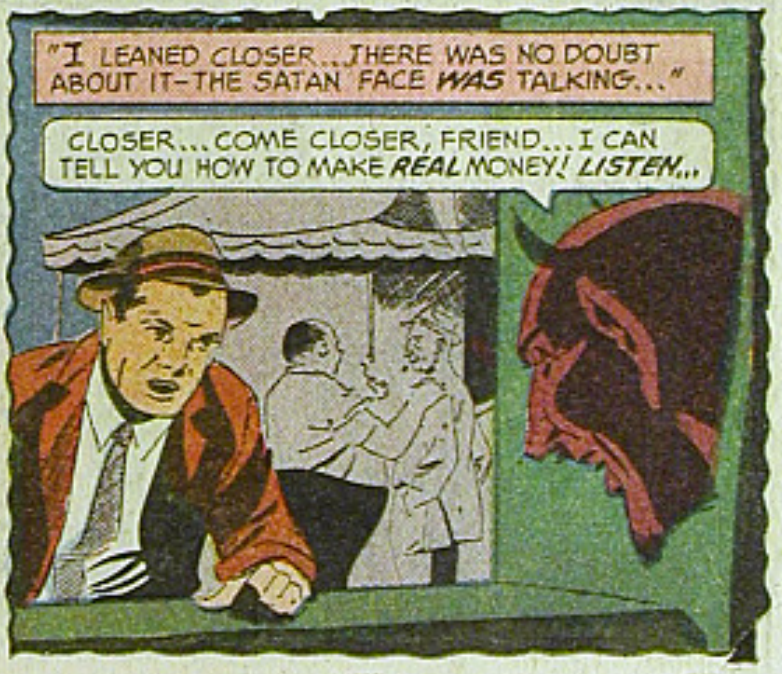
"EACH TIME, I WAS PURSUED LIKE SOME DARK DEMON OF THE NIGHT... BUT ALWAYS I ELUDED MY PURSUERS."
T-THAT TERRIBLE CREATURE AGAIN-- W-WHY CAN'T THEY CATCH HIM, ERIC?
THERE HE GOES, OFFICER!! THE MAN'S SOME SORT OF MANIAC! BE CAREFUL!

"HE KNEW FULL WELL THEY COULD NEVER APPREHEND ME:.. FOR I HAD ALL THE FIENDISH CUNNING THAT HE HIMSELF HAD USED TO TRICK ME..."
BARRED FROM SOCIETY... LIKE SOME WILD ANIMAL ...HOW COULD I HAVE LET IT HAPPEN? HOW COULD I HAVE BEEN SO DUPED..?

"AS I HEADED BACK TO THE ONE PLACE OF SAFETY I KNEW, MY MIND RECALLED THE TERRIBLE BEGINNING..."
I-IT BEGAN SO INNOCENTLY...SO VERY INNOCENTLY...


"THE CARNIVAL HAD JUST ARRIVED IN TOWN... I WAS LIKE A BOY AGAIN..."
TRY YOUR LUCK, FELLA— SMACK OLD SATAN ON THE NOSE AND WIN YOURSELF A BEEG PRIZE!
HA, HA! GUESS I WILL GIVE IT A TRY...
SMACK SATAN AND WIN A PRIZE

"I HAD THROWN THREE BALLS WHEN IT HAPPENED.."
GOOD SHOT, MY FRIEND! HA, HA! BUT YOU WIN ONLY A CHEAP PRIZE!
H-HUH?
SMACK SATAN

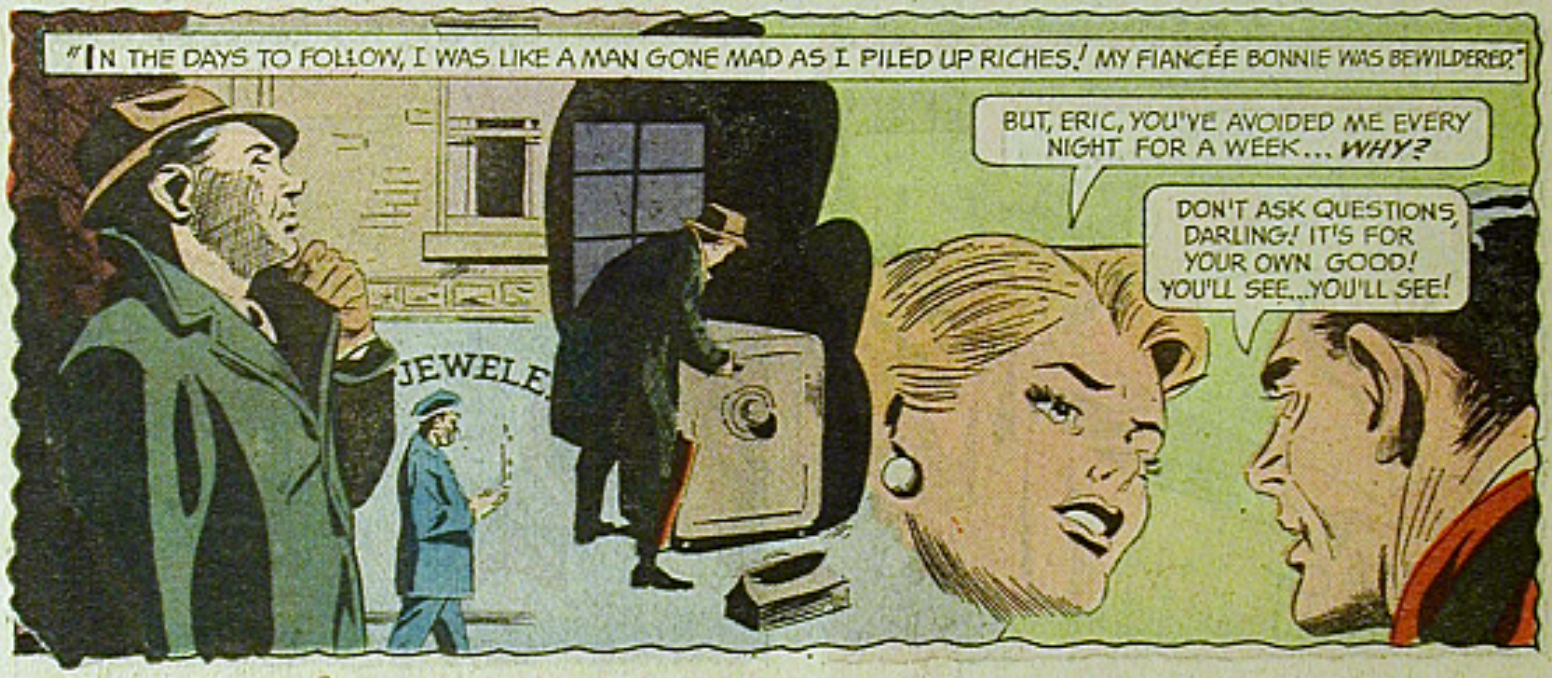

"I LEANED CLOSER...THERE WAS NO DOUBT ABOUT IT—THE SATAN FACE WAS TALKING..."
CLOSER...COME CLOSER, FRIEND...I CAN TELL YOU HOW TO MAKE REAL MONEY! LISTEN...

"I CAN REMEMBER HIS HOT VOICE HISSING IN MY EAR NOW... SEALING MY DOOM..."
THIS IS THE COMBINATION TO YOUR COMPANY'S SAFE...ROB IT AT 10 O'CLOCK...THE WATCHMAN WILL BE HAVING COFFEE...

"AS IF IN A OU TELL HER! YES...YES, IF ONE COMBINATLD REACH HER AND EXPLAIN WHAT NED SHE MIGHT BELIEVE IT!
I-IT'S JUSE... HELP ME OUT, IF YOU CAN!
WORKED
SMACK SATAN

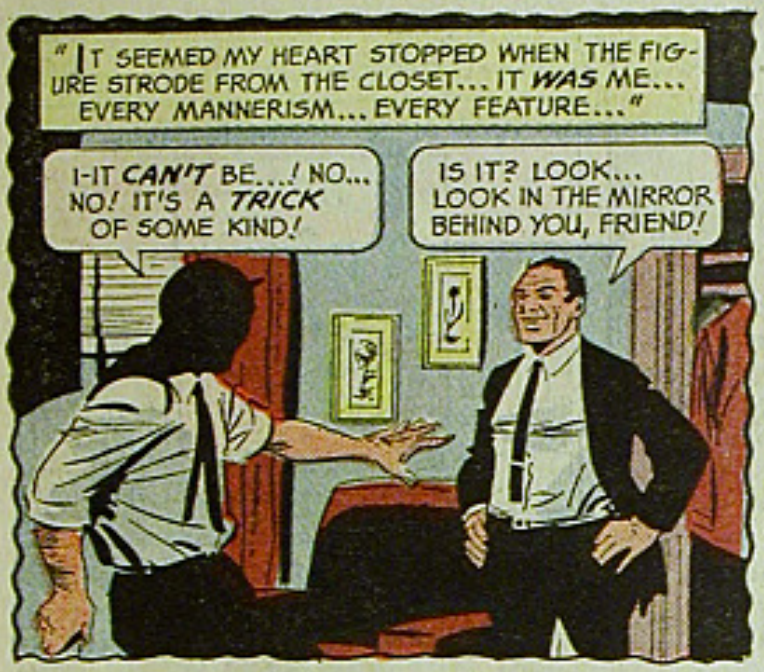
"THAT WAS THE BEGINNING! NIGHT AFTER NIGHT I RETURNED TO 'THE FACE' FOR FURTHER CRIMINAL INFORMATION..."
THE JEWELER WILL LEAVE HIS BAG FOR JUST FIVE SECONDS IN THE TRAIN TERMINAL...YOU MUST ACT FAST...
YES, YES!

"IT WAS INCREDIBLE... HIS INFORMATION WAS ALWAYS CORRECT...
NEWSSTAND


"IN THE DAYS TO FOLLOW, I WAS LIKE A MAN GONE MAD AS I PILED UP RICHES! MY FIANCÉE BONNIE WAS BEWILDERED."
BUT, ERIC, YOU'VE AVOIDED ME EVERY NIGHT FOR A WEEK... WHY?
DON'T ASK QUESTIONS, DARLING! IT'S FOR YOUR OWN GOOD! YOU'LL SEE...YOU'LL SEE!
JEWELE

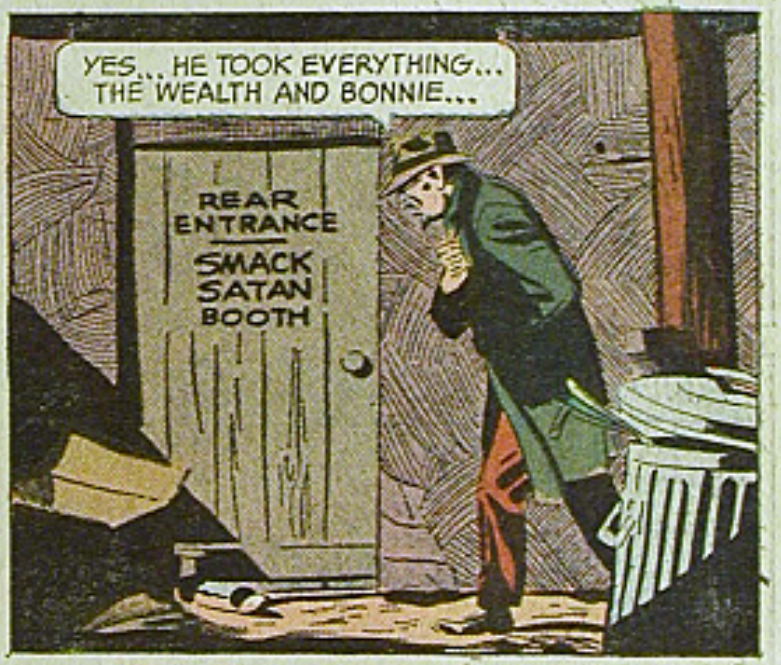
"EACH TIME, I WAS PURSUED LIKE SO NEXT NIGHT OF THE NIGHT... BUT ALWAYS I ELUDED SOMEONE
T-THAT TERRIBLE CREATURE AGAIN-- W-WHY CAN'T THEY CATCH HIM, ERIC?
THERE HE GOES, THE MAN'S SOME MANIAC! BE CAR

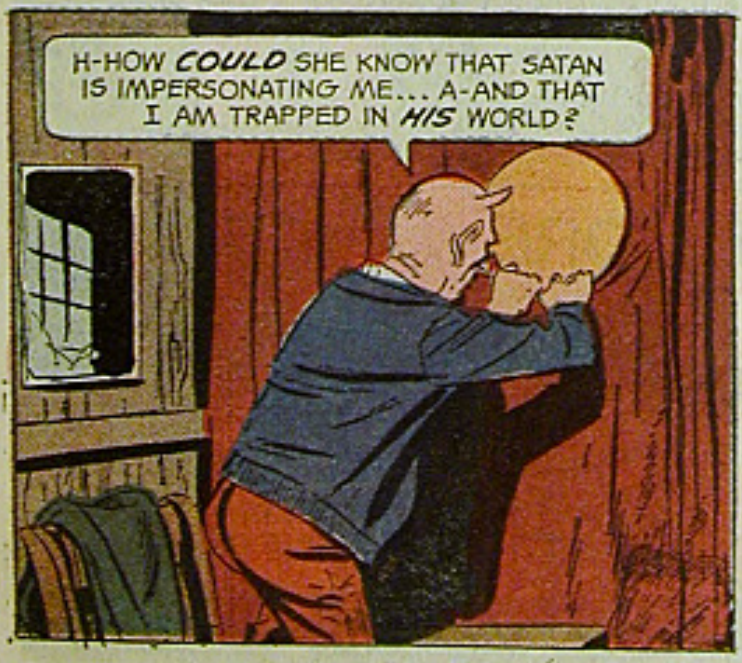
THAT VOICE! IT'S—YOU!
NO, NO, FRIEND, YOU ARE WRONG—IT IS YOU!


"IT SEEMED MY HEART STOPPED WHEN THE FIGURE STRODE FROM THE CLOSET... IT WAS ME... EVERY MANNERISM... EVERY FEATURE..."
I-IT CAN'T BE...! NO... NO! IT'S A TRICK OF SOME KIND!
IS IT? LOOK... LOOK IN THE MIRROR BEHIND YOU, FRIEND!

"THEN, AS I TURNED WITH DREAD..."
I'M SATAN! YOU'VE STOLEN MY FACE AND GIVEN ME YOURS!
HA, HA! NO, INDEED, ERIC... YOU HAVE EARNED MY SATANIC APPEARANCE BY YOUR DARK DEEDS OF THEFT!

BY HONORING MY DARK SOUL YOU HAVE RELEASED ME, ERIC! NOW I AM FREE TO ROAM YOUR WORLD, HA, HA, — AND YOU ARE FREE TO ROAM MINE!


YES... HE TOOK EVERYTHING... THE WEALTH AND BONNIE...
REAR ENTRANCE
SMACK SATAN BOOTH

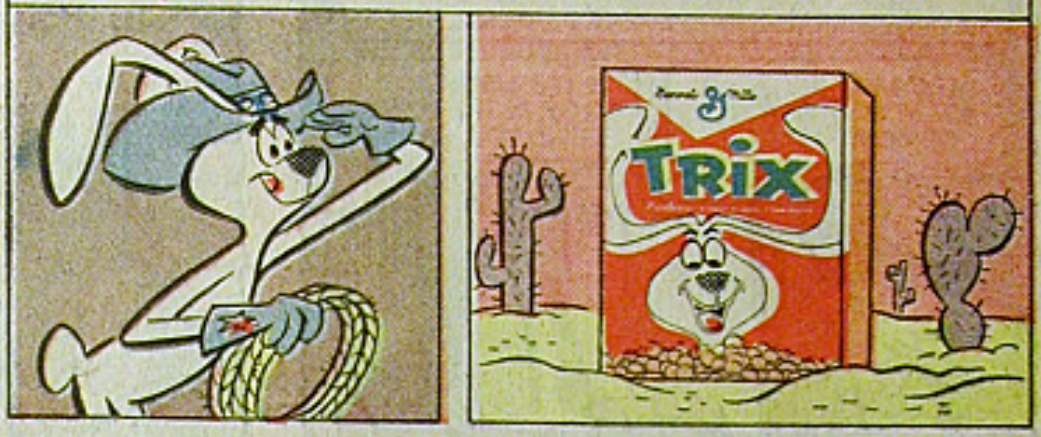

H-HOW COULD SHE KNOW THAT SATAN IS IMPERSONATING ME... A-AND THAT I AM TRAPPED IN HIS WORLD?

U-UNLESS YOU TELL HER! YES... YES, IF ONE OF YOU COULD REACH HER AND EXPLAIN WHAT HAS HAPPENED SHE MIGHT BELIEVE IT! PLEASE... HELP ME OUT, IF YOU CAN!
SMACK SATAN

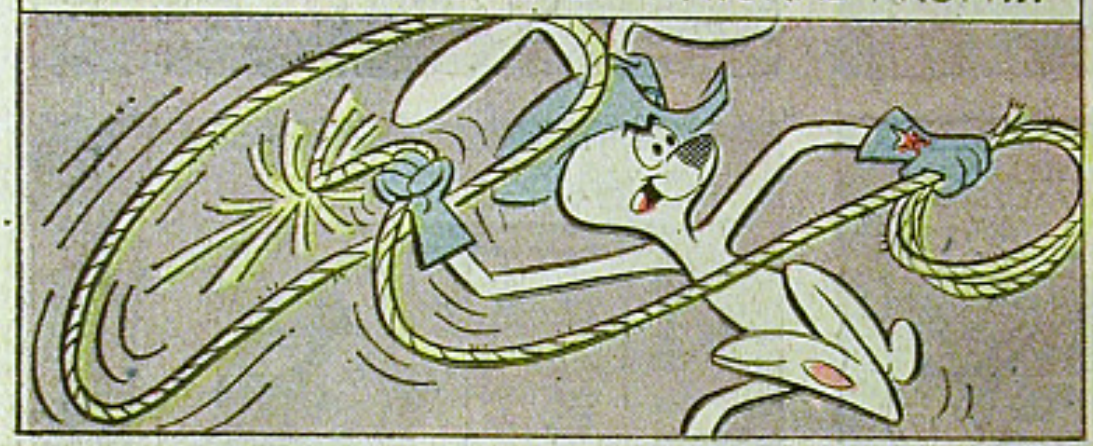
HOW'S TRIX?

WORTH ROUNDING UP...

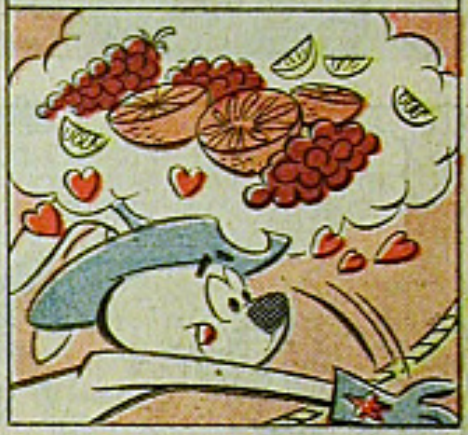
TRIX...THE CORN CEREAL WITH...



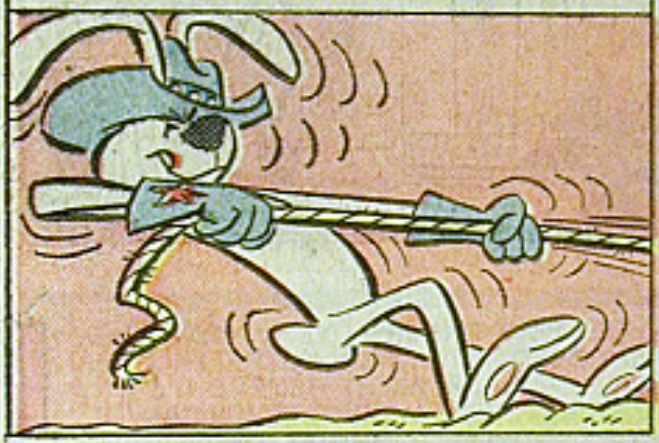
THE TANGY TASTE OF NATURAL FRUIT...



FRUIT COLORS, TOO!



AND AS WE ALL KNOW...



BONANZA
DOCTOR SOLAR
DANIEL BOONE
MIGHTY SAMSON
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KORAK, SON OF TARZAN
THE MAN FROM U.N.C.L.E.
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RIPLEY'S TRUE WAR STORIES
VOYAGE TO THE BOTTOM OF THE SEA

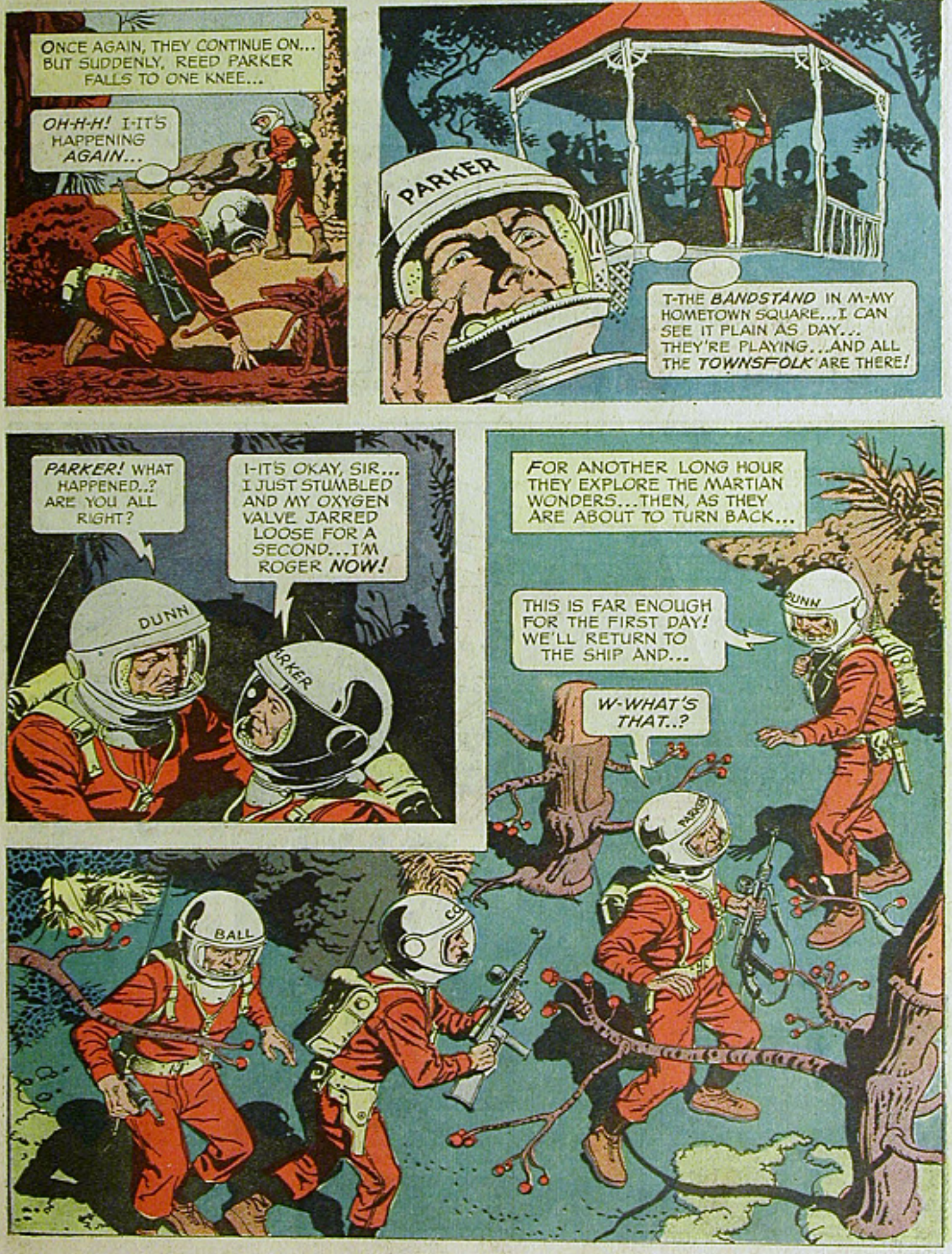
GOLD KEY COMICS

WAY OUT WEST--- ON MARS

REED PARKER TOSSED IN THE CONFINEMENT OF HIS SPACE GEAR AS NIGHT-MARISH VISIONS OF HIS HOMETOWN LOOMED IN HIS MIND! OF COURSE, IT WAS ONLY NATURAL THAT HE THINK OF HOME WHEN HE WAS 35 MILLION MILES FROM EARTH AND 141 MILLION FROM THE SUN... IN THE TWILIGHT ZONE OF SPACE..!

AS THE CAPSULE WITH ITS FOUR-MAN SPACE TEAM HURTLES DOWN TOWARD MARS, PARKER TRIES TO SHAKE THE VISIONS FROM HIS DREAMS
G-GOT TO SNAP OUT OF IT...C-CAN'T LET THE OTHERS KNOW I'M-I'M SEEING VISIONS!

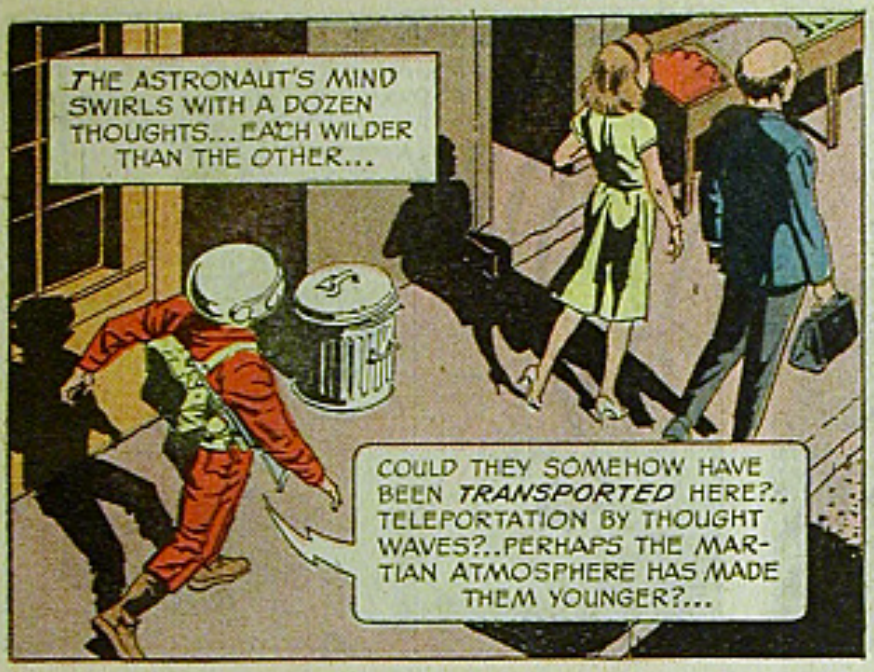
THIS IS IT, PARKER--WE'VE PASSED MARS' TWO SATELLITES, DEIMOS AND PHOBOS --SECURE FOR SET-DOWN!
R-ROGER..!
THE GREAT CRAFT HOVERS IN THE ALIEN ATMOSPHERE...THEN, RETRO-ROCKETS EASE HER ONTO THE MARTIAN TERRAIN...
CAUTIOUSLY, THE FOUR SPACEMEN TEST THEIR FOOTING...PEER IN HAPPY WONDER AT THE OMINOUS PLANET THEY HAVE COME TO CONQUER...
FOLLOW OUR PRE-LANDING LOG TO THE LETTER, MEN...KEEP TOGETHER...HEAD DUE NORTH FROM LANDING AREA...
LIKE CHILDREN IN A STRANGE FOREST, THEY HEAD NORTH...
DUNN
HALT! THIS IS AS GOOD A PLACE AS ANY! YOU WON THE TOSS UP FOR THE HONORS, PARKER...
RIGHT..!
I HEREBY DECLARE MARS TO BE A PLANETARY POSSESSION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, ON THE PLANET EARTH!


ONCE AGAIN, THEY CONTINUE ON... BUT SUDDENLY, REED PARKER FALLS TO ONE KNEE...
OH-H-H! I-IT'S HAPPENING AGAIN...
PARKER
T-THE BANDSTAND IN M-MY HOMETOWN SQUARE...I CAN SEE IT PLAIN AS DAY... THEY'RE PLAYING...AND ALL THE TOWNSFOLK ARE THERE!
PARKER! WHAT HAPPENED..? ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
I-IT'S OKAY, SIR... I JUST STUMBLED AND MY OXYGEN VALVE JARRED LOOSE FOR A SECOND...I'M ROGER NOW!
DUNN
FOR ANOTHER LONG HOUR THEY EXPLORE THE MARTIAN WONDERS...THEN, AS THEY ARE ABOUT TO TURN BACK...
THIS IS FAR ENOUGH FOR THE FIRST DAY! WE'LL RETURN TO THE SHIP AND...
W-WHAT'S THAT..?
BALL

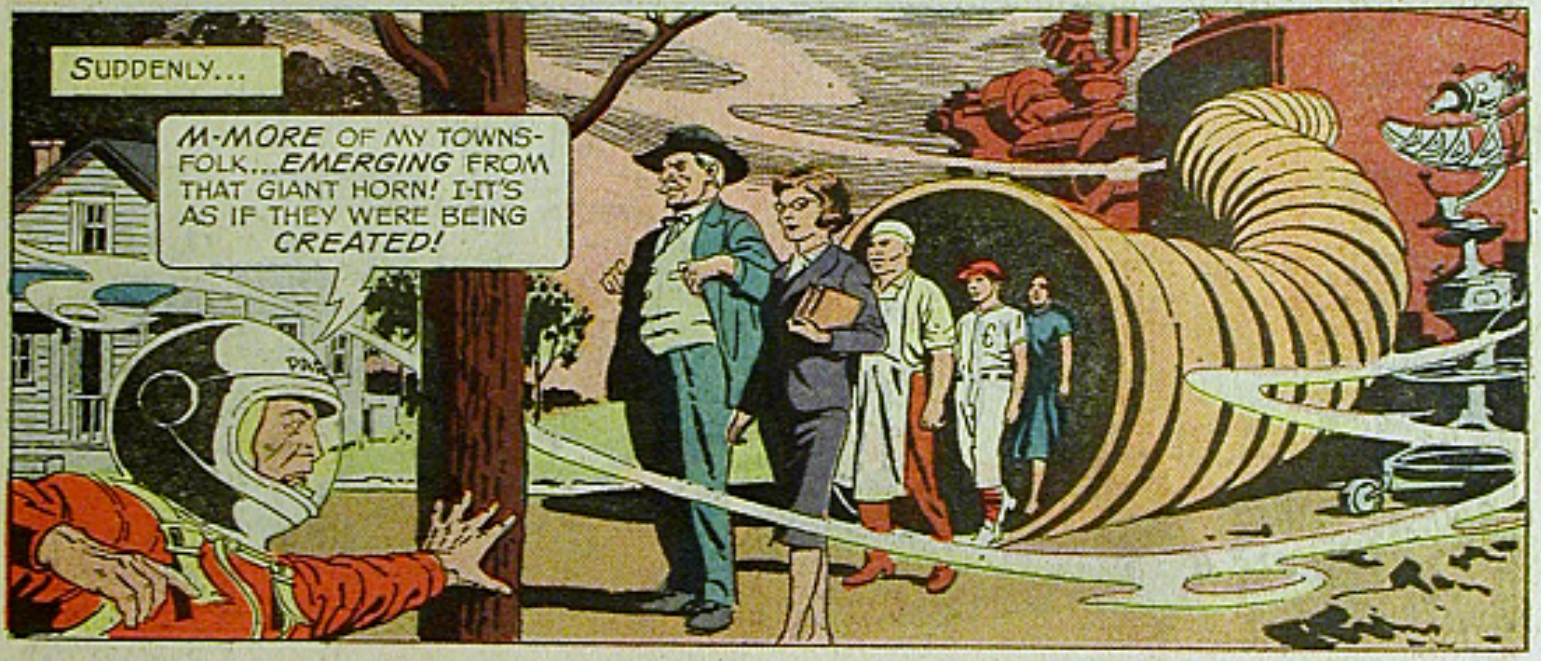
M-MUSIC! BUT THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE--HOW COULD THE SOUND BE PENETRATING OUR HELMETS..?
I-IT'S BAND MUSIC-- IT'S COMING FROM OVER THERE...BEYOND THE FOLIAGE!
DUNN
BALL
PARK
S-SUFFERING HANNAH!
REED PARKER IS THE FIRST TO TRACE THE INCREDIBLE SOUND TO IT'S SOURCE! HE WAVERS ON THE DESOLATE PLANET, UNABLE TO BELIEVE HIS BYES...
BIJOU
IT'S CENTERVILLE- MY HOMETOWN...AND ALL MY FRIENDS ARE HERE!

MAJOR DUNN!...I'M CRACKING UP! IT'S BEEN COMING OVER ME FOR DAYS... VISIONS! TAKE ME BACK TO THE SHIP! L-LOCK ME UP!
NO...NO, PARKER... YOU'RE NOT INSANE...
PARKER
DUNN
W-WE ALL SEE IT...AND HEAR IT! NOW, STEADY DOWN...WE CAN'T ALL HAVE GONE MAD TOGETHER...THIS...THIS THING HAS TO BE INVESTIGATED!
SLOWLY, THE FOUR FROM EARTH MOVE FORWARD... INTO A REALM THAT SHOULD BE 35 MILLION MILES AWAY...
THE MUSIC GROWS LOUDER... APPLAUSE SOUNDS IN THE BIZARRE ATMOSPHERE OF THE ALIEN PLANET...
DOC YATES! IT IS HIM...I'VE KNOWN HIM ALL MY LIFE...
CLARA LEE - IT'S ME, REED PARKER...
DON'T TOUCH THEM! DON'T PUT A FINGER ON THEM, PARKER!

DOWN--ALL OF YOU! PARKER...YOU SAY THIS IS YOUR TOWN? THESE ARE YOUR FRIENDS?
Y-YES...YES ..THEY ARE.!
WE'VE BEEN BRIEFED FOR NEARLY EVERY POSSIBLE EMERGENCY ON AN ALIEN PLANET...BUT THIS..! W-WE MUSTN'T PANIC...THERE'S GOT TO BE A LOGICAL EXPLANATION...
MAJOR...
PARKER
WHATEVER THE ANSWER IS, IT IS CENTERED AROUND ME! I'M THE ONE WHO MUST TRY TO SOLVE IT. I'LL GO OUT THERE!
PARKER
35 MILLION MILES IN SPACE, REED PARKER WALKS DOWN THE STREET OF HIS "HOMETOWN"...
CLARA LEE AND OLD DOC YATES...THEY'RE JUST AS I REMEMBER THEM...BUT THERE'S SOMETHING DIFFERENT!
BUS STOP
OF COURSE! THEY ARE THE SAME--BUT AS I REMEMBER THEM TEN YEARS AGO WHEN I WAS HOME LAST! THEY HAVEN'T AGED!
ROOMS


THE ASTRONAUT'S MIND SWIRLS WITH A DOZEN THOUGHTS... EACH WILDER THAN THE OTHER...
COULD THEY SOMEHOW HAVE BEEN *TRANSPORTED* HERE?.. TELEPORTATION BY THOUGHT WAVES?..PERHAPS THE MARTIAN ATMOSPHERE HAS MADE THEM YOUNGER?...

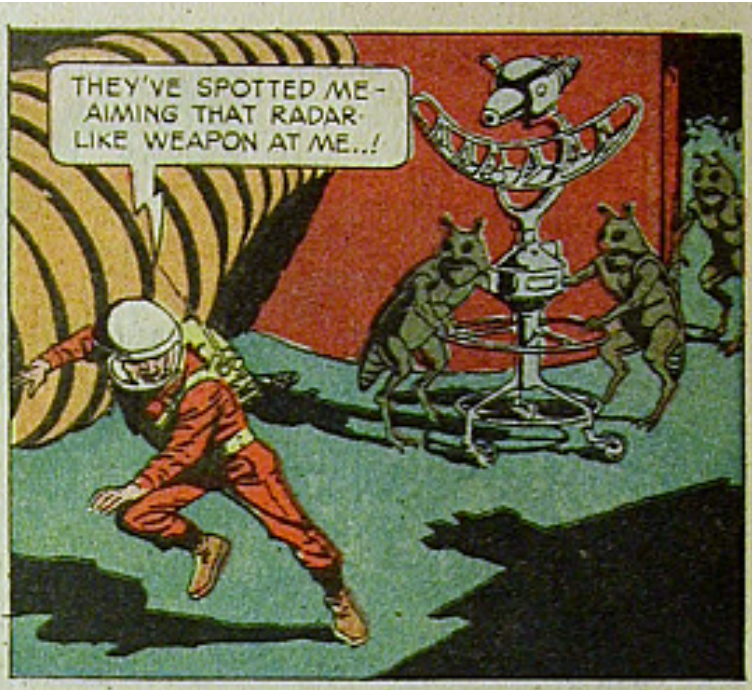
CLARA LEE... DOC YATES... WAIT! DON'T RUN FROM ME!

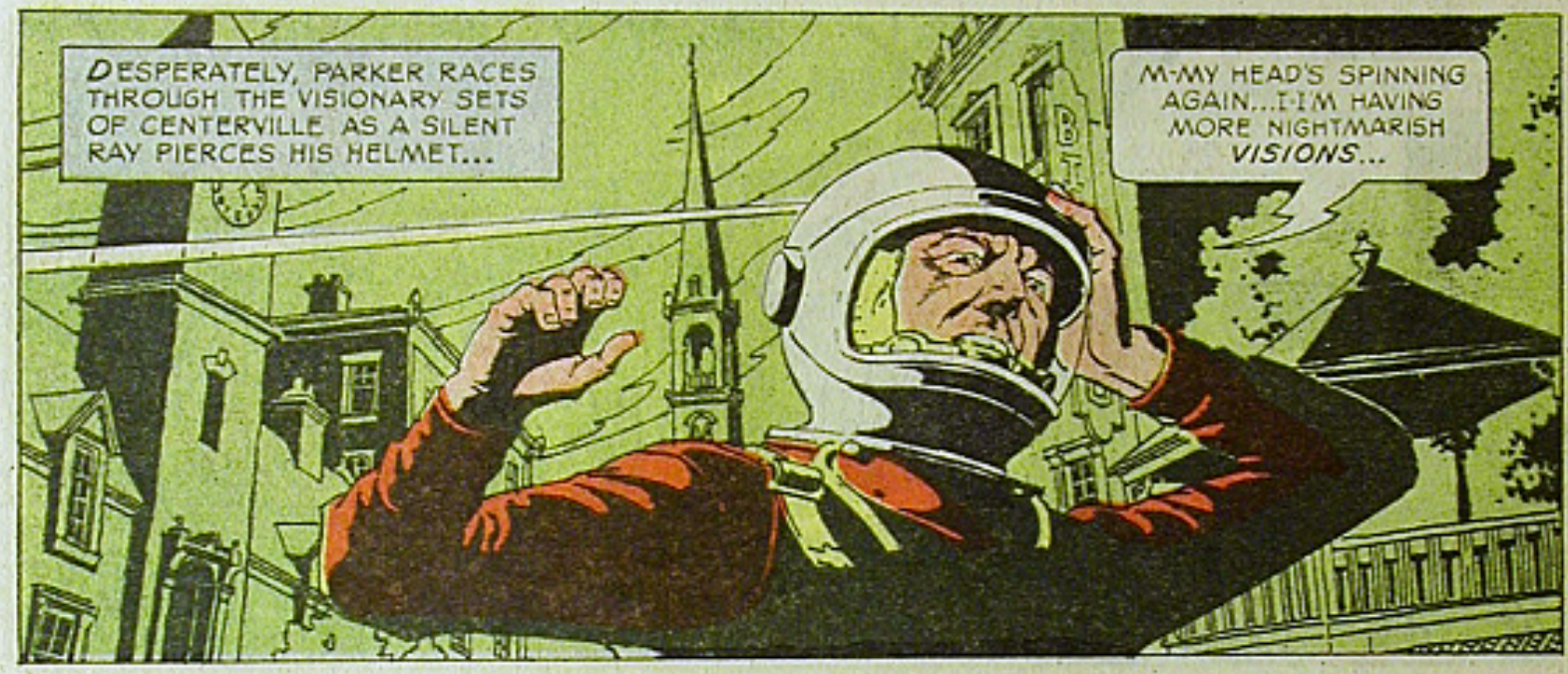

SUDDENLY...
M-MORE OF MY TOWNSFOLK...*EMERGING* FROM THAT GIANT HORN! I-IT'S AS IF THEY WERE BEING *CREATED!*

THEN, AS PARKER SLIPS THROUGH THE MIST...
M-MARTIANS..! THEY'RE ENTERING THAT DEVICE A-AND *EMERGING* AS CITIZENS FROM MY *HOMETOWN!*

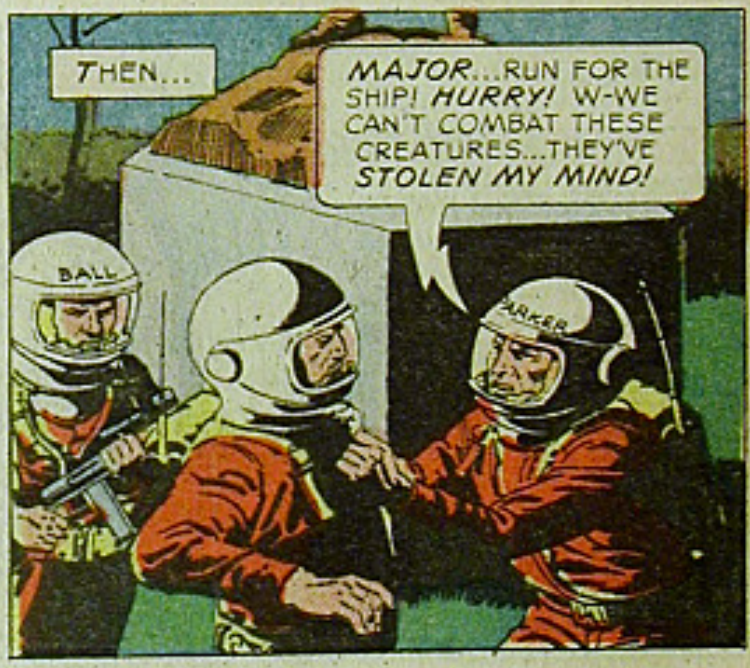
BUT THE STREETS...THE BUILDINGS..! *WHA..?* THERE'S *NOTHING HERE!* --THEY'RE ONLY AN *ILLUSION!* B-BUT WHY... *WHY* ARE THEY DOING IT..?
PARKER

OF COURSE! THERE CAN BE ONLY ONE EXPLANATION -- THEY'RE PLANNING TO COLONIZE EARTH--AND THEY ARE GOING TO SUBSTITUTE THEMSELVES FOR THE PEOPLE IN MY HOMETOWN!
ZIIKA! ZIIKA!

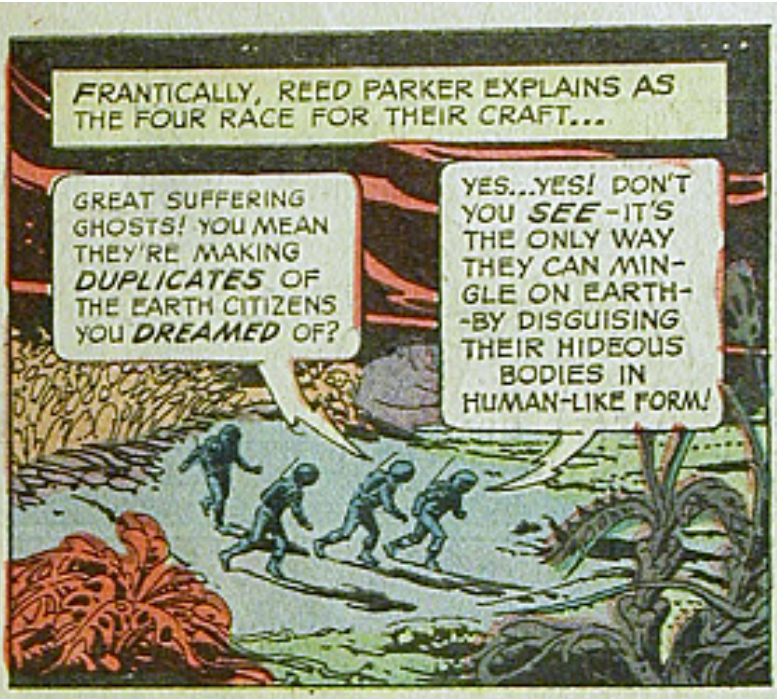

THEY'VE SPOTTED ME - AIMING THAT RADAR-LIKE WEAPON AT ME..!

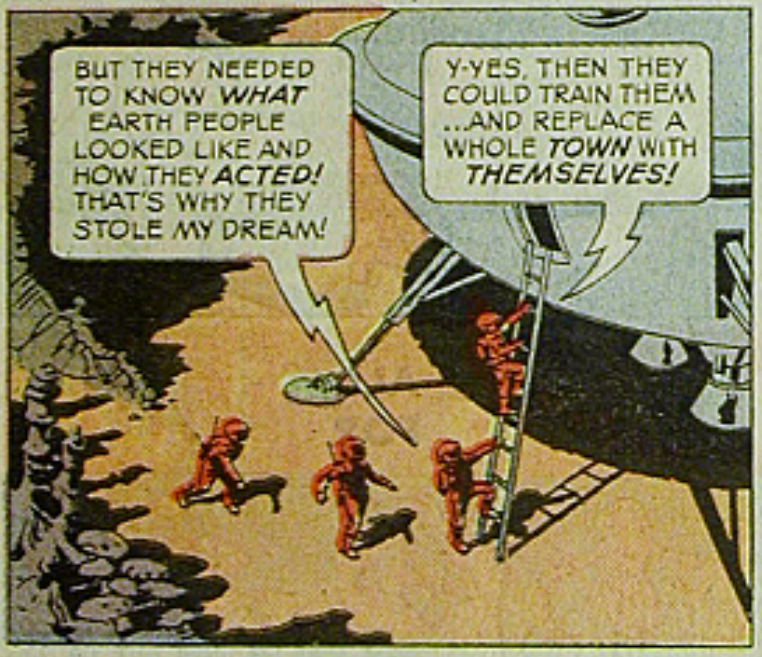

DESPERATELY, PARKER RACES THROUGH THE VISIONARY SETS OF CENTERVILLE AS A SILENT RAY PIERCES HIS HELMET...
M-MY HEAD'S SPINNING AGAIN...I-I'M HAVING MORE NIGHTMARISH VISIONS...

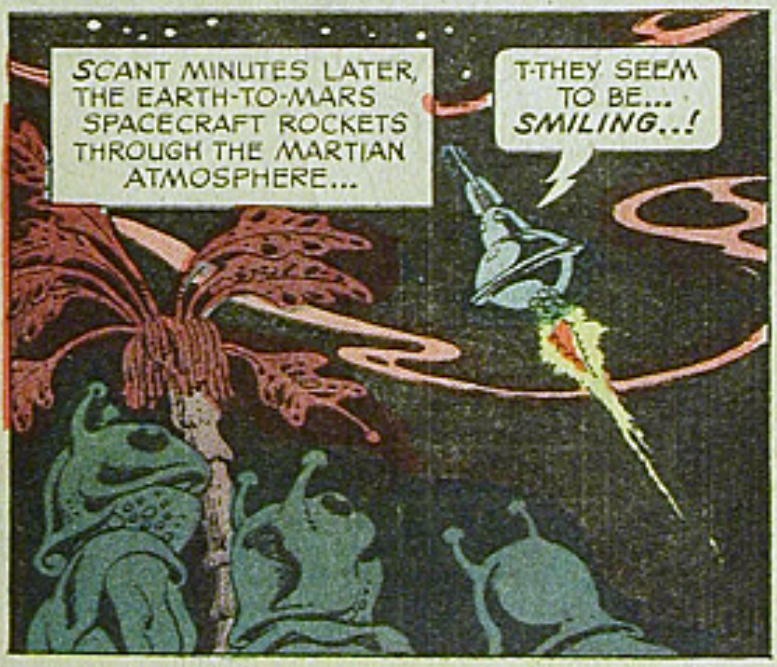
STAY CLEAR...YOU'RE NOT MY FRIENDS...YOU'RE ZOMBIES!-MARTIAN ZOMBIES!

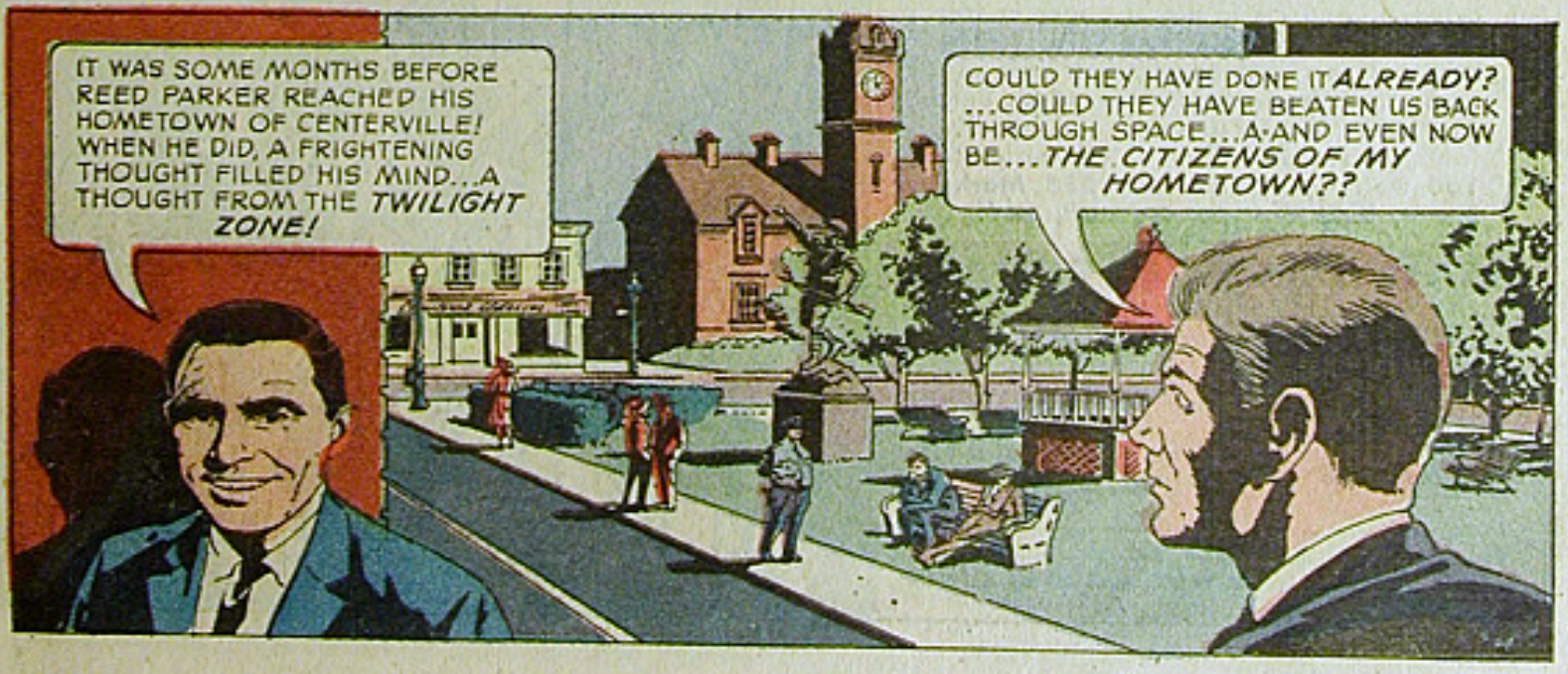

THEN...
MAJOR...RUN FOR THE SHIP! HURRY! W-WE CAN'T COMBAT THESE CREATURES...THEY'VE STOLEN MY MIND!
BALL
PARKER

PARKER! MAKE SENSE--WHAT'S HAPPENED? WHY ARE ONLY YOU AFFECTED..?
BECAUSE ONLY I WAS SLEEPING WHEN WE ENTERED THEIR ATMOSPHERE...T-THEY MUST HAVE TO HAVE A SLEEPING SUBJECT TO INVADE THE SUBCONSCIOUS MIND! HURRY! HURRY!


FRANTICALLY, REED PARKER EXPLAINS AS THE FOUR RACE FOR THEIR CRAFT...
GREAT SUFFERING GHOSTS! YOU MEAN THEY'RE MAKING DUPLICATES OF THE EARTH CITIZENS YOU DREAMED OF?
YES...YES! DON'T YOU SEE - IT'S THE ONLY WAY THEY CAN MINGLE ON EARTH--BY DISGUISING THEIR HIDEOUS BODIES IN HUMAN-LIKE FORM!


BUT THEY NEEDED TO KNOW WHAT EARTH PEOPLE LOOKED LIKE AND HOW THEY ACTED! THAT'S WHY THEY STOLE MY DREAM!
Y-YES, THEN THEY COULD TRAIN THEM ...AND REPLACE A WHOLE TOWN WITH THEMSELVES!


SCANT MINUTES LATER, THE EARTH-TO-MARS SPACECRAFT ROCKETS THROUGH THE MARTIAN ATMOSPHERE...
T-THEY SEEM TO BE... SMILING..!


IT WAS SOME MONTHS BEFORE REED PARKER REACHED HIS HOMETOWN OF CENTERVILLE! WHEN HE DID, A FRIGHTENING THOUGHT FILLED HIS MIND...A THOUGHT FROM THE TWILIGHT ZONE!
COULD THEY HAVE DONE IT ALREADY? ...COULD THEY HAVE BEATEN US BACK THROUGH SPACE...A-AND EVEN NOW BE...THE CITIZENS OF MY HOMETOWN??

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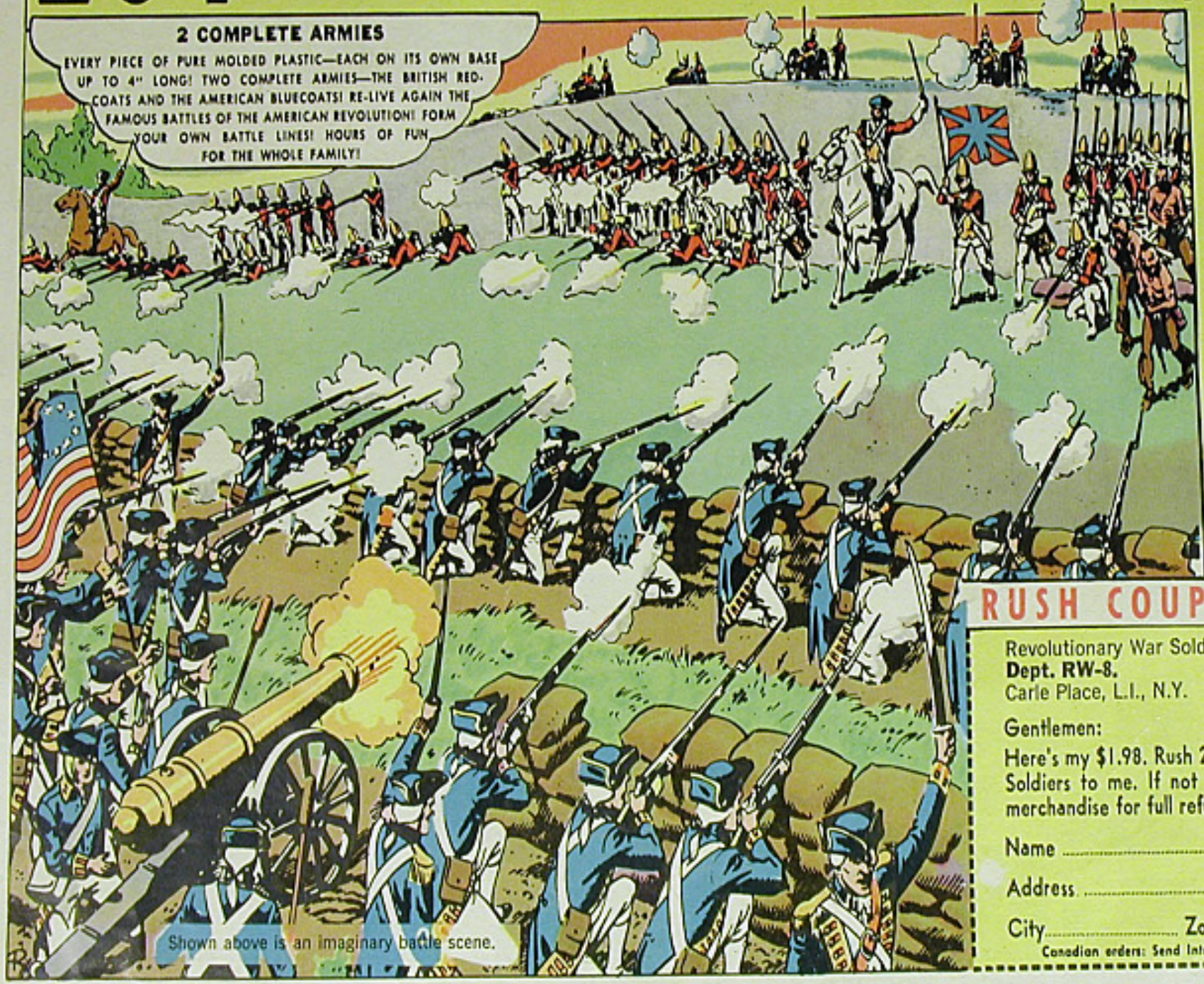

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